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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Kuybyshev Oblast)	REPORT	
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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
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2. Throughout the report, Upravlenchesky should read Upravlencheskiy. On page 1, paragraph 1, Gorodek should read Gorodok.

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**HOUSING CONDITIONS**

1. I lived from 1946-1950 in Upravlenchesky Gorodek, about 22 kilometers north of Kuybyshev, on the Volga River. During that period Upravlenchesky, as it was called, had 4,000 Soviet inhabitants and 2,000 Germans. The latter were the East German scientists and their families who had been drafted in 1946 by the USSR from East Germany to work in the USSR.
2. Upravlenchesky was located on the left bank of the Volga River, on the heights overlooking the river bank. Below it, two kilometers away, at the water's edge, was a fishing village. The Volga River in this area was very picturesque and the large houses along the river, which had formerly been owned by merchants engaged in river traffic, had been turned into rest homes and sanatoriums.
3. The town had three stone, four-story apartment house buildings, housing 80 family units. A fourth apartment was being completed. There were also one-story wooden houses and a settlement of wooden

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houses of the so-called "Finnish" type, viz., a single or double unit with several rooms and kitchen. The name "Finnish" was applied to them because they were of the prefabricated type manufactured in Finland and handed over to the USSR after World War II as reparations.

4. The Soviet citizens were allotted one room per family as living quarters. German families received preferential housing accommodations based on their job assignments.

#### FOOD SUPPLY

5. During the first three years of my stay the food supply situation was very critical, but later it became increasingly better. Food distribution was faulty; one type of food would be abundant for several weeks and then become scarce.
6. The average Soviet diet consisted of a porridge, fatty meat and potatoes. Black bread was supplied and was usually wet and greasy. I usually got cramps from eating this bread. The town had its own bread bakery which was very dirty and fly infested.
7. Milk was sold on the market place or bazaar, and in the State store or magazin. It was dispensed from open containers and was not pasteurized. The market place offered various kinds of fish, e.g., pike and other fresh water varieties. Salted, smoked and dried fish were regularly eaten. All kinds of meat were sold in the bazaar. This was usually obtained from the immediate neighborhood and had been slaughtered by private owners.
8. Sunflower oil was commonly used as fat source by the people. Small amounts of butter, margarine and pork fat were also for sale.
9. No refrigeration was available for food protection and preservation in the government store. There was no attention paid to cleanliness in the food stores, nor did I hear of any food inspections or food sanitation laws.

#### WATER SUPPLY

10. The town had a public water system, but I do not know from what source its water was obtained. It was probably ground water. I believe there was a water tower on the edge of the city furthest from the Volga. The system furnished water to the large apartment houses and to some of the wooden houses. Those houses not included in the system made use of wells.
11. I do not believe that the public water was chemically purified before use, in accordance with a health regulation of the local authorities. There was always plenty of water available even in the summer time in the public system.

#### MEDICAL CARE

12. The town had a polyclinic located in several rooms of a home next to the factory. I do not know how many were on its staff, but recall that one female physician was there. Occasionally no physician was available when needed. The polyclinic also had a dentist on duty and a pharmacy was also next door. A small maternity home was set up in a house next to the polyclinic.

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13. The factory also had a small dispensary with one physician and an assistant to furnish simple industrial care to the factory workers.
14. The town hospital was located next to the bazaar. Its chief was a female surgeon, and there were about three young female physicians on the staff. The hospital was in a two-story wooden house which had about 100 beds.
15. Infectious disease cases were not cared for in Upravlenchesky but were sent to a hospital in Kuybyshev. No other medical care was available. On the heights just above the fishing village on the Volga River, about one kilometer from the river, was a rest home or sanatorium. This was a white plaster-covered wooden building housing about 1,000 people, young and old, men and women. This building was apparently used as a recreation or rest home for Soviet citizens. It did not appear to be a hospital or convalescent home. I heard of no medical research in the town. This would have been done in Kuybyshev and not in Upravlenchesky.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

16. I have no information on this subject. I did not hear penicillin discussed in Upravlenchesky. I recall that facilities were available for carrying out blood tests for malaria. All other laboratory diagnostic work had to be sent to Kuybyshev for no such laboratory existed in Upravlenchesky.

Diseases

17. A few malaria cases appeared in the towns. I do not believe that tuberculosis was present in significant amounts. I heard of no dysentery or pneumonia. Scarlet fever and measles were the only diseases occurring to any extent. Diarrhea occurred in the summer months, but I do not know its cause or extent.
18. I heard nothing of the occurrence of rabies, foot and mouth disease, brucellosis or anthrax. No bovine tuberculosis existed to my knowledge. Distemper was common.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

19. I never heard of the existence in the factory of a safety engineer. I never observed that the factory-dispensary doctor did anything positive to ensure safety of the workers. However, once each year the workers had to submit to an injection as protection against typhoid fever.
20. The workers had no union officials to watch out for their safety or to ensure sanitary control of facilities in the factory. I know of no special measures used for the protection of the factory workers' health.

BW

21. I heard nothing about BW offense or defense in Upravlenchesky.  I heard nothing about BW propaganda against the USA.

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ANIMALS

22. The area had no mosquitoes. In May swarms of fleas appeared which lasted about four weeks and then disappeared. Because these fleas bit the people, it was necessary to cover the exposed skin with petroleum as an anti-insect agent. Mosquito-nets were also necessary to protect oneself from the fleas.
23. Although there were no mosquitoes, the area had some insects which I believe spread malaria. The Soviets distributed yellow tablets and green tablets to treat malaria cases which occurred. Atebrin was also used by those Germans who were able to obtain it from the East Zone. The Soviet doctors did not prescribe atebrin in their treatment of malaria.
24. I heard of the presence of a tick or similar boring insect, which was particularly widespread. These ticks allegedly caused paralysis when they bored into the skin of a human. They apparently were quite common in Siberia.
25. No snakes were seen by me in the area. It was reported that there were adders in the area, but this could not be confirmed. There were unbelievable numbers of rats and mice in the town. The Soviets made no serious efforts to destroy these pests. Some poisons were infrequently distributed to combat the rodents but this fight was ineffectual. People in the town kept Siberian cats, a long-haired type, to control rodents.
26. Wolves were allegedly found in the region, and traces of them could be seen. Wild dogs were also not uncommon. These became a health menace and the Soviets finally collected all stray dogs.
27. I have no information on poisonous fish in the area, nor of poisonous or allergenic plants.

WASTE DISPOSAL

28. The town had a sewage system which served only the large apartment houses. The sewage led to a small brook in a depression on the town's edge, and this eventually flowed into the Volga River. I do not believe that the sewage was chemically purified before disposal. The factory's effluent also flowed into this brook.
29. Those homes which were not serviced by the public system made use of outdoor latrines. The Soviets also used the open yards near their homes as toilets. Latrines were emptied occasionally and wastes were thrown into surrounding wooden areas.
20. Garbage was emptied into large wooden bins near the homes and these were eventually emptied from time to time into ox-drawn carts. Garbage collection was irregular and the old garbage attracted many dogs and flies.

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